

# **Economic Development & Improvement Commission (EDIC)**

**Regular Meeting – Thursday March 14, 2013 – 12:00 Noon**

**Town Manager's Conference Room, First Floor, Town Hall**

## **MINUTES**

1. Call To Order – The meeting was called to order at 11:59 A.M.
2. Attendance and Quorum (6 members required) - Chris Lyons, Tony Martino, Vincent Fabi, Howard Greenblatt, Doug Sacks, Joan Hughes, John Adamian, Dorcas McHugh, Greg Bedula, Peter Gillespie-Dir. Planning & Economic Development, Denise Bradley-Assistant Planner and guest Gioia Zack.
3. Old Business
  - a. Vacant Property Updates – Peter Gillespie discussed the following properties:
    - 125 Silas Deane Highway
    - 1000 Silas Deane Highway
    - 1178 Silas Deane Highway
    - 176 Cumberland Avenue
    - 7 Railroad Place
    - 245 Main Street
  - b. Website – Peter Gillespie reported that the new website is online and he encouraged everyone to visit and provide feedback on the design and layout.
  - c. Grants
    1. Vibrant Communities Grant – Masonic Building and Comstock Ferre – Peter Gillespie noted the highlights of the February 28<sup>th</sup> workshop that was held at the Keeney. CME consultants will be releasing a report on the conditions of the buildings shortly.
    2. Main Street Investment Fund Grant – A decision should be made in April.
    3. 2013 STEAP Grant – Waiting on grant announcement.
    4. CT Grown Joint Venture Program – Doug Sacks reported that the grant application was filed but he isn't optimistic that any funding will be received.
    5. Heritage Interpretive Trail – A discussion ensued regarding the Tourism Product Development Grant.
4. New Business
  - a. Business Visitations – Various visitation packets were assigned as follows:
    - CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence – Peter Gillespie
    - Tetra Tech – Peter Gillespie
    - Diana Stutz Design LLC – Greg Bedula
    - Maggie's Hair Salon – Vincent Fabi
    - Wethersfield Monument – Joan Hughes
    - Tamarind Grill – John Adamian
    - Mr. Tint – Howard Greenblatt
    - Kids at Heart Consignment – Joan Hughes
    - D Bac Barbershop – Vincent Fabi
    - Rugged Fitness – Howard Greenblatt

- LaPila's Home Gallery – Tony Martino
  - Prove It Golf – Chris Lyons
  - Beaver Brook Animal Hospital – Doug Sacks
- b. Budget - 2013/2014 – There was no additional discussion.
    - c. Grand Openings/Ribbon Cuttings – There was a ribbon cutting at the new Cherry Berry Yogurt, 1084 Silas Deane Highway.
    - d. Plan of Conservation and Development – Public Hearing April 2 – A copy of the draft plan is available on the website for review and feedback. EDIC members were encouraged to attend the public hearing.
  5. Other Business – There was no other business.
  6. Reports
    - Town Manager's Report – No report was given.
    - Town Council Liaison's Report – No report was given.
    - Planning & Zoning Commission Liaison's Report – Peter Gillespie discussed the highlights on the February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.
    - Tourism Commission Liaison's Report – Dorcas McHugh discussed the Commission's efforts to prioritize their budget.
    - Redevelopment Agency Liaison Report – Peter Gillespie noted that the Agency is waiting for the STEAP announcement regarding 1000 Silas Deane Highway.
    - Chamber of Commerce Liaison's Report – No report was given.
    - Director of Planning and Economic Development's Report – There was nothing additional to report.
  7. Chairman's Report – No report was given.
  8. Sub-Committee Reports -
    - Marketing and Communications – The subcommittee meeting will be rescheduled.
    - Financial Strategies – No business to report.
    - Farmers' Market – The Farmers' Market will open on May 16<sup>th</sup>. A subcommittee meeting will be scheduled next week.
  9. Minutes – February 14, 2013 Meeting – Howard Greenblatt made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Tony Martino seconded the motion and all voted in favor. Abs. Doug Sacks.
  10. Next Meeting – April 11, 2013
  11. Correspondence – There was no correspondence.
  12. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 1:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Bradley, Assistant Planner